



## California Department of Fish and Game Deer Management Program 2004 Deer Zone Information

Wildlife Programs Branch  
1812 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95814

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### Northern California and North Coast Region

#### General Deer Hunting Information For

### **ZONE B-2**

(Includes Additional Hunt J-4)

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION FOR DEER HUNT ZONE**

This information sheet has been prepared to assist deer hunters applying for, or planning to hunt in, Zone B-2 located in portions of Humboldt, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity counties. The following information should be useful to hunters for archery and general seasons as well as any "additional hunts" within this geographic area. For more specific information or additional questions regarding this area contact the Northern California and North Coast Region Office, 601 Locust Street, Redding, CA 96001 (530-225-2300).

#### **REGULATIONS**

Laws and regulations are designed to conserve wildlife and to provide for an equitable distribution of game mammals. The hunter who knows the laws and regulations can enjoy the hunting experience more. All hunters should read and be familiar with the current hunting regulations available online at: [http://www.dfg.ca.gov/fg\\_comm/2004/mammalregs04.html](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/fg_comm/2004/mammalregs04.html)

The 2004 deer hunting regulations specific for Zone B-2 (archery and general season) and any additional hunts are at the end of this sheet. To hunt deer in Zone B-2, hunters must possess a "B" zone deer tag. This tag is valid during the archery or general season using the appropriate method of take in either: Zone B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 or B-6. Season dates vary between these zones, so be sure to check the current regulations for the zone you plan to hunt.

Additionally, Archery Only #1 Tags (AO#1) and Archery Only #2 Tags (AO#2) are valid during the Zone B-2 archery or general season using archery equipment only.

Any additional deer hunts in Zone B-2 are listed in the Additional Deer Hunts section, below. Typically, tags for additional deer hunts are in high demand and distributed through the Department's Big Game Drawing held in June. To receive tags for many of these hunts, hunters must plan ahead and are encouraged to submit deer tag applications by late May. For information regarding deer tag application procedures and obtaining a deer tag for this area see the Big Game Hunting Booklet, available on-line at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/biggame/biggamebook.html>

Successful hunters are reminded to immediately fill out both portions of the tag and permanently mark the date of kill; record the appropriate "B" zone (Zone B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 or B-6) where they killed their buck; attach the tag to the antlers, or ear if antlerless; have the tag validated and countersigned; and return the completed report card portion to the department within 30 days of taking a deer.

## **LAND OWNERSHIP/PUBLIC LAND OPPORTUNITIES**

Zone B-2 contains a mixture of both public and private lands. Remember you must obtain and have in your possession written permission to hunt on private property. Hunter trespass laws are strictly enforced. Public lands within the zone are administered by the Klamath, Shasta-Trinity and Six Rivers National Forest (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). For information regarding these lands contact the following:

### **USFS Offices:**

Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097-9549 (530-842-6131)

Shasta-Trinity National Forest, 2400 Washington Avenue, Redding, CA 96001 (530-244-2978)

Six Rivers National Forest, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, CA 95501 (707-442-1721)

### **BLM Offices:**

Redding Field Office, 355 Hemsted Drive, Redding, California 96002 (530-224-2100)

Wilderness lands have been established within the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. The Trinity Alps Wilderness Area is accessible by hiking and pack stock. Public use of the wilderness is regulated by permit. Information on wilderness area restrictions and Wilderness Permits may be obtained by contacting the Shasta-Trinity National Forest.

In Zone B-2 and other zones throughout California, additional deer hunting opportunities may exist on private property licensed through the Department's Private Lands Management Program (PLM). For more information on the PLM and to obtain a list of participating ranches, go to the following link:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/deer/plm.html>

REMINDER: The boundary of the Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area divides Zones B-2 and B-5. The Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area is in Zone B-5.

## **MAPS**

For general maps detailing individual zone or additional deer hunt boundaries, go to the following link:

[http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/deer/deer\\_maps.html](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/deer/deer_maps.html)

The most comprehensive maps of the area are the three National Forest maps. USFS maps are available at all USFS offices or you can contact the USFS Pacific Southwest Regional Office at: 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592 (707-562-8737).

BLM surface management maps may also be useful. However, because Zone B-2 covers such a large area, several maps are needed to depict it entirely. BLM surface management maps for Zone B-2 include the Garberville, Hayfork, Hoopa, Mount Shasta, Red Bluff, Redding and Yreka maps. You can purchase these maps at BLM district offices or you can contact the BLM at 2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834, Sacramento, CA 95825 (916-978-4400).

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps, are very helpful, especially for topographic features that are not displayed on USFS or BLM maps. USGS maps may be available from sporting goods, backpacking or engineering stores or you can contact the USGS directly at: Rocky Mountain Mapping Center, Branch of Information Services, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225 (888-ASK-USGS).

## **ACCESS/MAJOR ROADS**

Primary roadways in Zone B-2 are Interstate 5 (eastern B-2), State Highway 3 (north-south B-2), State Highway 299 (central B-2), State Highway 36 (southern B-2) and State Highway 96 (northern B-2). Many County, USFS and BLM roads branch off of these primary roadways providing access to public lands.

## **WEATHER CONDITIONS/TRAVEL TIPS**

The weather in this region is highly variable so BE PREPARED. The weather is usually quite hot and dry, but early storms are not uncommon. Snow fall will be a rare occurrence with these storms but heavy rains can make many roads very difficult, if not impossible, to travel. You should be prepared with appropriate

clothing and equipment for a variety of weather conditions.

Zone B-2 covers a very large geographic area. The terrain can be very steep and rugged and vegetation can be extremely dense. As you should do in all remote areas, hunters are urged to bring a shovel, a good spare tire, extra water, etc. Use care when operating any vehicle off-road and check with the BLM or USFS for rules and regulations regarding vehicle and travel restrictions in the area. Horses can be useful in some portions of B-2. However, remember that it may be necessary to carry supplemental horse feed into the back country. Contact the local USFS and/or BLM office for more information regarding forage conditions for livestock.

### **CAMPING**

There are numerous designated campgrounds within Zone B-2. The facilities available at these campgrounds vary from primitive campsites to campsites with running water and showers. Most campgrounds are clearly marked on USFS and BLM maps. Camping outside of designated campgrounds is usually permitted on BLM and USFS lands. However, during fire season special regulations may apply and it will be necessary to obtain a fire permit from the USFS or BLM. You can also check with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection office for rules in specific areas.

Please, DO NOT CAMP at springs or other water sources important to wildlife and livestock. Remaining at artificial wildlife water sources (guzzlers) can be a Fish & Game violation. YOU can pack water, wildlife can't!

### **HARVEST INFORMATION**

Information on deer harvest for this area is available in tables contained in the annual Deer Kill Reports available on-line at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/deer/deerhunt.html> The most useful tables for the purposes of planning or applying for hunts in this area are Tables 1b (Harvest and Success Information), 2a (Antler Class Information) and 10b (Drawing Statistics).

### **HERD CONDITIONS AND HABITATS**

The deer population in Zone B-2 is considered stable to slightly declining, yet considerably below levels seen in the late 1960's and 1970's. As with most deer herds in California and other western states, the long-term population trend has been on a steady decline since the 1960's and 1970's. These long-term declines have been due to land management practices that have precluded fire, resulting in changes toward more mature and less diverse habitats, and reduced quality and quantity of deer habitats. Short-term fluctuations in deer populations are usually attributed to weather events that affect forage production.

The subspecies of deer inhabiting Zone B-2 is the Columbian black-tailed deer. Deer in Zone B-2 are generally considered resident deer. That is, their movement is up and down the slopes, they do not make long seasonal migrations. The deer in this area generally move to higher elevations in late spring and will remain there until the first heavy fall storms force them down below the snow line. This downward movement often occurs during the hunting season, so hunters should be prepared to move to lower areas later in the season after stormy weather. However, deer summering in the Trinity Alps portion of Zone B-2 are considered migratory. With the onset of storms, these deer move to lower elevations to the east with a significant number crossing Trinity Lake (Clair Engle) and wintering in areas east of the lake.

The vegetation is highly varied throughout Zone B-2 ranging from oak-woodland, mixed-chaparral, hardwood-conifer, and dense conifer forests to alpine habitats. Generally speaking, deer populations in this area respond favorably to vegetation disturbances that enhance brush species (wildfire and timber harvesting). Riparian areas (areas along watercourses), recently burned areas or clear cuts that have re-sprouted with brush are good areas to hunt. Areas where oaks are producing acorns may also attract deer. Typically, lower densities of deer are observed in the more densely forested areas or in older, more decadent brushlands.

### **HUNTING TIPS AND WHERE TO LOOK FOR DEER**

Successful hunters often spend a considerable amount of time scouting pre-season, locating individual or

groups of deer, recently used deer trails, and feeding and bedding areas. You may not see many deer from the roads in this area and generally the more successful hunters do more hiking to locate deer. Binoculars and/or spotting scopes can be very helpful for locating and identifying deer at greater distances. In general, attempt to hunt areas that are away from other activities such as concentrations of hunters, vehicles, and/or livestock.

Deer can be found in higher elevations early in the hunting season. Deer tend to remain in the timber during the day, moving to the meadows in the evenings. In late September bucks generally favor the brush fields during the day. Early storms can force deer down below the snow line before the end of the season.

Historically, some of the more popular and productive deer hunting areas in Zone B-2 include:

Mumbo Basin/Trinity Divide, located northeast of Trinity (Clair Engle) Lake, is generally above 5,000 feet elevation and consists of brush fields, timber, and meadows; small lakes scattered throughout the area provide good fishing opportunities. Since the area is easily accessible, it is popular with hunters. Early in the hunt season, the buck kill is above average.

Granite Peak/Davis Creek, bordering the wilderness area west of Trinity Lake, is steep and generally thickly timbered with small brush fields and streams throughout. Large brush fields can be found above the timber line, on poorer soils. The majority of this area is not accessible by roads. Successful hunters generally hunt from stands.

Pony Buck/White Rock, in southern Trinity County, has large numbers of summering deer. It is easily accessible by road, receiving moderate hunting pressure.

Hayfork/Corral Bottom/Indian Valley, in mid-western Trinity County, consists of timber with cut blocks, some meadows, and streams. Vehicle access is good, because of the 1987 wildfire and increased logging activity.

Wilderness Areas, for the most part, have large numbers of summering deer. Access is limited to foot or horseback and a Wilderness Permit, issued by the USFS, is required. Swift Creek, Coffee Creek, or Eagle Creek, in the eastern portion of the Trinity Alps, are good areas to hunt. As major storms occur, deer migrate to lower elevations. The distance they move depends on the storm's severity and food availability in the holding areas. Deer tend to favor brush fields with snowbrush and deerbrush and areas with good acorn production. If a particular holding area has a poor food supply, the deer may continue on down slope to winter ranges. The following areas are good bets after the deer have started their down slope migration: North Fork of Swift Creek, Davis Creek, Bowerman Ridge, Cedar Creek, which converges with the East Fork of the Trinity River, Poison Canyon, and the Lake Eleanor area. Winter ranges east of Trinity Lake and western Shasta County provide good hunting after migration has occurred.

For additional information about deer hunting in California, see the Department's publication "Guide To Hunting Deer In California" at the following web site:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/deer/deerguide.pdf>

### **ADDITIONAL DEER HUNTS**

In 2004, one additional deer hunting opportunity exists within Zone B-2: a) Hunt J-4 (Shasta-Trinity Junior Buck Hunt). For general maps detailing the individual hunt area boundaries, go to the following link:

[http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/deer/deer\\_maps.html](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/deer/deer_maps.html)

### **2004 ZONE AND ADDITIONAL HUNT SPECIFIC REGULATIONS**

#### **§ 360. Deer.**

Except as otherwise provided in this Title 14, deer may be taken only as follows:

(a) A, B, C, and D Zone Hunts.

(2) Zone B.

(A) Area: Shall include all of Zones B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 and B-6 (see subsections 360(a)(2)(A) 1-6).

2. Zone B-2.

In those portions of Humboldt, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity counties within a line beginning at the intersection of Interstate 5 and Highway 299 in Redding; west on Highway 299 to the Bully Choop Mountain Road at the Shasta-Trinity county line and Buckhorn Summit; south on the Bully Choop Mountain Road to a point where this road leaves the Shasta-Trinity county line at Mud Springs; southwest along the Shasta-Trinity county line to the Browns Creek-Harrison Gulch Road; south on the Browns Creek-Harrison Gulch Road to Highway 36; east on Highway 36 (200 yards) to Forest Service Arterial Road 41; south on Forest Service Arterial Road 41 to Stuart Gap at the Tehama-Trinity county line; south on the Tehama-Trinity county line to the north boundary of the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness Area; west and south on the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness boundary to the South Fork of the Trinity River; north and west along the South Fork of the Trinity River to Highway 299; west and north on Highway 299 to Highway 96 at Willow Creek; north on Highway 96 to the Cecilville-Salmon River Road (Forest Service Road 93) at Somes Bar; east along the Cecilville-Salmon River Road to Highway 3 at Callahan; east along Highway 3 to the Gazelle-Callahan Road (Forest Service Road 1219); east along the Gazelle-Callahan Road to Highway 99; north along Highway 99 to Louie Road; east along Louie Road to Interstate 5; south along Interstate 5 to the point of beginning.

(B) Season: The seasons for the B Zone shall be those specified for the areas described as B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 and B-6 (see subsections 360(a)(2)(B)1-6).

2. Zone B-2.

The season in Zone B-2 shall open on the third Saturday in September and extend for 37 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better, per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 55,500. Zone B tags are valid in Zones B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 and B-6

(c) Additional Hunts.

(28) J-4 (Shasta-Trinity Junior Buck Hunt).

(A) Area: In those portions of Shasta and Trinity counties beginning at the junction of Highway 3 and Highway 299 in Weaverville; north on Highway 3 to the East Side Road at the north end of Trinity Lake; east on the East Side Road to Dog Creek Road; east on Dog Creek Road to Interstate 5 at Vollmers; south on Interstate 5 to Shasta Lake; south along the west shore of Shasta Lake to Shasta Dam; south along Shasta Dam along the Sacramento River to Keswick Dam Road; west on Keswick Dam Road to Rock Creek Road; south on Rock Creek Road to Highway 299; west on Highway 299 to the point of beginning.

(B) Season: The season for additional hunt J-4 (Shasta-Trinity Junior Buck Hunt) shall open on the fourth Saturday in November and extend for nine consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better, per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 15.

(E) Special Conditions:

1. Only junior license holders shall apply (see subsection 708(a)(2)).

2. Tagholders shall be accompanied by an adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(44) Conditions for Special Hunts.

(A) When hunting on military reservations or private lands, hunters shall have in their possession a written permit signed by the landowner, which may specify where and when the permittee may hunt.

(B) When required, tagholders shall check in and check out of designated check stations.

### **§ 361. Archery Deer Hunting.**

(a) Archery Hunting With General Deer Zone Tags. Deer may be taken during the archery season only with archery equipment specified in Section 354 as follows:

(2) B Zones.

(A) Zones B-1 through B-3, B-5 and B-6.

1. Area: As described in subsection 360(a)(2)(A).

2. Season: The archery deer season in Zones B-1 through B-3, B-5 and B-6 shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

3. Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(c) Archery Hunting with Archery Only Tags. Deer may be taken only with archery equipment specified in Section 354, during the archery seasons and general seasons as follows:

(1) Number of Archery Only Tags Permitted. A person may obtain an archery only tag using a one-deer tag application and a second archery only tag using a second deer tag application.

(2) Zones in Which Archery Only Tags are Valid. An archery only tag is valid for hunt G-10, and during the archery season and general season in all zones except C-1 through C-4 and X-1 through X-12.

(3) Areas: As described in subsections 360(a) and (c).

(4) Seasons: The archery season and general seasons are provided in subsection 361(a) above and in subsections 360(a) and (c).

(5) Bag and Possession Limit: All bag and possession limits per zone are the same as those described in subsections 360(a) and (c).

(d) Hunting Area Limitations. Archers not in possession of an archery only tag may hunt only in the zone, zones, or areas for which they have a general tag or an area-specific archery tag. (Refer to subsection 361(c)(2) for zones in which archery only tags are valid).

(e) Crossbow Prohibition. Except as provided in subsection 354(j), crossbows may not be used during any archery season or during the general season when using an archery only tag.

\*\*\*\* GOOD LUCK! \*\*\*\*